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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Microsoft is a huge organization and a de-facto monopoly. However in the technology business this is somewhat meaningless and they have traditionally produced some fantastic pieces of software. I work for an organization that sells and supports Microsoft products. One of our biggest vendors (Great Plains) was purchased by Microsoft. Since that has happened they have raised our fees and cut our margins. They have begun to charge for services that had been free. I think the real issue with Microsoft is their predatory business practices. I do not feel that the settlement will keep them from engaging in practices that stifle competition or innovation. The settlement appears to be a temporary fix that actually reinforces their hegemony and has no real staying power to enforce compliance.

It appears that they have purchased the right amount of political influence and that the Department of Justice has sold us all out. Hope you all got a lot of money.

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